The Da Vinci Code: Mary Magdalene

- **Intro:**
  - **Da Vinci Code:** controversial book written by Dan Brown, movie directed by Ron Howard - entertaining
  - **plot:** man and woman try to find the Holy Grail, proof that MM was Jesus wife, they had at least one child, holy bloodline on earth today — woman turned out to be Jesus’ descendant
  - **prep:** didn’t read the book, watched the movie, read a number of reviews with varying views, did research
  - **commend:** Discovery Channel documentary, good info & research
  - **purpose of lesson:** not give book review / talk about some of the doctrines that have disturbed some

- **What does Leonardo da Vinci have to do with the story?**
  - **Da Vinci allegedly was a member** of a secret society that protected the Holy Grail - the secret that Mary Magdalene was Jesus wife, the ordained leader of His church, and that His bloodline walks the earth
  - **Da Vinci allegedly left clues** in his art work, relating to the grail - esp. The Last Supper

- **The Da Vinci Code is fiction**
  - **Dan Brown is a genius,** great author, took a number of legends, including some from Gnostic gospels, wrote a novel that “sounds real” - captured the imagination of the world
  - **book claims to be based on fact,** which is partially true - fiction takes things that aren’t true and puts them forth as truth - that’s fiction
  - **used:** history, legends, Gnostic doctrines to make up a story
  - **religious implications:** seems people know fiction, not religions teaching (doctrine)
  - **good:** made many aware of Gnostic Gospels, caused them to study basic Bible principles - esp. about Jesus
Gnostic Doctrine employed within DVC: Jesus married to Mary Magdalene, she is #1 church leader

- Mary Magdalene was married to Jesus, they had at least one child, ancestors on earth today
  - DVC:
    - the RC Church covered up this fact, killed many people, slaughtered women (Crusades)
    - Mary Magdalene was second to Jesus, was ordained to be leader of the church
    - Holy Grail was the secret - Mary was Jesus’ wife, the ordained leader of the church, ancestors on earth

8 - DVC: uses the Last Supper to set forth this theory (attached)

- Holy Grail legend: used by authors, fiction, long before Dan Brown was born
  - great French poet, Chretien de Troyes (12th century), was the first to introduce the grail to the Arthurian legend
  — cup from the last supper — came from his imagination
  - others took the legend, expanded it, changed it
  — cup of last supper / small cup with a few drops of Jesus’ blood / bloodline of Jesus on earth, royal blood

- Gnostic myth: Jesus married / Mary leader of church
  - Gnostics:
    - Gnostic: one who claims to have special spiritual knowledge
    - Gnosticism: mixture of Christianity with philosophy, mysticism, and various cult doctrines
      - resulted in a religion opposed to Christians and the Lord’s church
      - a number of different sect were present in the second century
  - Gospel of Philip: fragment reads, “Jesus frequently used to kiss her on the” (fragment breaks off, not know where, not nec. sexual)
    - DNC: says Jesus would kiss her on the mouth, not in the Gospel of Philip
    - experts agree from the late 3rd century
    - no Gnostic Gospel says that Jesus was married, that He had children
  - Gospel of Mary Magdalene (last 2nd century): says that Mary received special teaching that none other received, Mary leader of the disciples rather than Peter after Jesus’ death, Mary the one most loved by Jesus

- apostles fought Gnostic doctrines — John & Paul only rf. below
  - Gnostic: The heavenly pleroma was the center of the divine life, and Jesus was interpreted as an intermediary eternal being, or aeon, sent from the pleroma to restore the lost knowledge of humanity’s divine origin (The Columbia Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition. 2001-05). — Bible, Jesus was the pleroma

- John:
  - Jn. 1:1-14 Jesus is God, eternal, Word, Light, testified by John, flesh

- Paul:
  - Col. 2:9 Jesus is the pleroma (fullness of God, that which you must be in union with to be saved) - bodily form (Jesus came in body, contrary to Gnostic doctrines)
    - Col. 2:8-15 context, not take captive philosophy (Gnosticism), traditions of men, Jesus is head of all, buried with Him in baptism, made alive together, forgiven, Jesus disarmed
  - Eph. 1:23; 3:19; 4:13 Paul to the Ephesians
    - surpasses knowledge (gnosis), filled up to all the fullness of God - Jesus (Eph. 3:19)
    - true knowledge (epignosis) - Jesus — not Gnosticism (Eph. 4:13)
  - 1 Tim. 2:4 true knowledge (epignosis), truth — word of God (Jn. 17:17), not Gnostic doctrines
  - 1 Tim. 6:20 reject Gnostic doctrines (falsely called knowledge - gnostis)
Bible: Was Jesus married to Mary Magdalene? Did they have children?
- **Bible does not tell** us that Jesus was married, that He had children
  - can’t “believe” that He did
- **Rom. 10:17; 2 Cor. 5:7 — silence, 2 Jn. 1:9**
- **note: no documents**, Bible, historical, religious (Anti-Nicene), Gnostic claim that Jesus was married or had children — it’s fiction

- **thought: if God wanted Jesus** to be married and have children, for whatever reason, it would not have changed the gospel, plan of salvation, our relationship with God, our salvation and eternal life
  - **see God’s wisdom:** Jesus not to have a wife and “royal bloodline” on earth - pagan worship, veneration of bloodline
  - which men have done, without it even being true

- **thought: we know about Jesus’** parents, brothers, sisters - if He would have had a wife and children it seems we would have known about them

- **thought:** Jesus made arrangements for His mothers continued care - if He was married He would have done the same for His wife & children, since He would have been the best husband and father to walk the earth

- **thought: if Jesus had a wife, Paul would have used it - best example if could offer**
  - **1 Cor. 9:5** note mention by Paul, as Jesus having a wife

Bible: Did Jesus intend for Mary to be the leader of His church?
- **Bib tell** us that Jesus commissioned the apostles to lead the church
  - **Rom. 10:17; 2 Cor. 5:7**
  - **Matt. 28:18-20;** cf. Jn. 16 Holy Spirit, apostles, guide all truth, etc.
  - **note: no documents**, Bible, historical, religious (Anti-Nicene), Gnostic claim that Jesus commissioned Mary Magdalene

- **Warning:**
  - **Dan Brown took** existing legends and myths regarding the Holy Grail and Da Vinci’s Last Supper, spun them into a fascinating novel
  - **good:** made many aware of Gnostic Gospels, caused them to study basic Bible principles - esp. about Jesus
  - **1 Tim. 1:3-4; 2 Tim. 4:3-4** Paul warns us not to turn from the truth to myths / Jesus married, royal bloodline on earth

- **Inv.**
  - believe in God and His word
  - be saved in obedience to Jesus Christ, as delivered to us through His apostles
The Last Supper Analysis — few, not all
info from the Discovery Channel, online & documentary

➤ pict. of Last Supper (partial)

➤ Mary Magdalene
- DVC: this is Mary Magdalene, Jesus’ wife, sitting to Jesus right, the place of prominence
- scholars: this is John the apostle, painted similar to Da Vinci’s painting of John the Baptist, looks feminine

➤ knife
- DVC: knife shows that the men wanted to kill MM
- scholars: probably a reference to Peter’s violent reaction to Jesus’ arrest - cut off Malchus’ ear

➤ “V”
- DVC: the “V” between Jesus and Mary
  - they are joined at the hip, representing marriage
  - the “V” represents the “chalice” womb and sexuality, communicating that the Holy Grail was the marriage between Jesus and Mary
- scholars: all of the apostles are grouped in triangular formations, which creates a compositional balance for the central triangular figure who is Jesus (Diane Apostolos, Georgetown University)

➤ “M”
- DVC: the “M” created by outlining Jesus and Mary represents “Mary Magdalene” and “marriage”

➤ reverse Mary to the others side of Jesus, she is leaning into Jesus rather than away from Him
- DVC: shows that they were married

➤ color of Jesus’ and Mary’s garments - blue and red
- DVC: colors symbolize “royal blood” suggesting the Christ and MM were married, had children, and created a royal bloodline on earth
  - this secret was allegedly protected by the “Priory of Sion”
  - the color’s of Mary’s garments are a mirror image of Jesus’, supporting this belief

➤ missing grail
- DVC: suggests that since there is no grail on the table, Da Vinci is communicating that the Holy Grail is not a cup, but the secret of Jesus’ marriage to MM

All these things allegedly show that Da Vinci, who was supposedly a member of the Priory of Sion, was cryptically revealing the secret - the Holy Grail was the secret that Jesus was married to MM, that they had a child, that Jesus’ royal bloodline is upon the earth today